FILED

JUDICIAL COUNCIL

JAN 26 2010

OF THE NINTH CIRCUIT

MOLLY C. DWYER, CLERK U.S. COURT OF APPEALS

IN RE COMPLAINT OF

No. 09-90082

JUDICIAL MISCONDUCT

ORDER

KOZINSKI, Chief Judge:

Complainant alleges that the district judge assigned to his civil case made various improper substantive and procedural rulings, including denying his motions for recusal. These charges relate directly to the merits of the judge's rulings and must therefore be dismissed. See 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(ii); Judicial-Conduct Rule 11(c)(1)(B). A misconduct complaint is not a proper vehicle for challenging a judge's rulings on the merits. See In re Charge of Judicial Misconduct, 685 F.2d 1226, 1227 (9th Cir. Jud. Council 1982).

Complainant also alleges that the judge was mentally incompetent and biased, and that the judge engaged in improper ex parte conversations with defense counsel. But complainant hasn't provided any objectively verifiable proof (for example, names of witnesses, recorded documents or transcripts) to support these allegations. See In re Complaint of Judicial Misconduct, 569 F.3d 1093, 1093 (9th Cir. Jud. Council 2009). Adverse rulings do not constitute proof of bias or

conspiracy. These charges must therefore be dismissed. <u>See</u> 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(iii); Judicial-Conduct Rule 11(c)(1)(D).

Complainant's allegations against defendant and defense counsel are dismissed because this misconduct complaint procedure applies only to federal judges. See Judicial-Conduct Rule 4.

DISMISSED.